

To: Yogi, David[yogi.david@epa.gov]
From: Pease, Amanda
Sent: Mon 8/17/2015 6:43:20 PM
Subject: FW: Suggested Lake Powell Language

We want to add Lake Powell talking points to our overall list. Besides changing the language around “water is safe to drink” to “water can be used as drinking water through its normal treatment process” (a more concise version of that at least), let me know if you have other initial thoughts.

Best,
Amanda

From: Dunkelman, Tom
Sent: Monday, August 17, 2015 11:00 AM
To: Pease, Amanda
Subject: Suggested Lake Powell Language

EPA has received numerous questions regarding the safety of water in Lake Powell, in response to the August 5 release at the Gold Hill Mine site.

On August 15 and 16, EPA sampling crews collected water and sediment samples from 11 locations in Lake Powell, between the upper reached of the San Juan Arm of Lake Powell and the Glen Canyon Dam. The results of this sampling effort will not be available until later this week. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) also collected samples from the vicinity of the Glen Canyon Dam on Friday August 14, and these results are expected back shortly.

While we do not yet have results from water quality testing from Lake Powell, EPA believes that water in Lake Powell is safe for drinking and for recreational use. This is based on the fact that results from the San Juan River upstream of Lake Powell show that contaminant levels are trending back to pre-event conditions, that the San Juan River inflow into Lake Powell is more than 300 miles away from the Gold King Mine Site and that the sheer volume of Lake Powell would quickly dilute any contaminants entering the lake.

Over the next few days we expect to receive results that confirm the safety of Lake Powell water

for drinking and recreational use.